

United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Uncompahgre Field Office
2465 South Townsend Avenue
Montrose, Colorado 81401
www.co.blm.gov



IN REPLY REFER TO:
DOI-BLM-CO-S050-2010-0047 EA

MAY 31 2011

Dear Stakeholder:

SCOPING NOTICE

Lamborn/McDonald Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing a vegetation treatment project designed to reduce hazardous wildland fuels and the potential for catastrophic fire, improve wildlife habitat, and maintain or achieve land health on public lands.

This project, called the Lamborn/MacDonald Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project, is located in Delta and Gunnison Counties, approximately 3 miles southwest of the town of Paonia, CO. (see Attachment 1, Location Map).

The Lamborn/MacDonald area is important winter range habitat for deer and elk, and also supports grazing for cattle. This area also contains natural water springs located on adjacent United States Forest Service (USFS) lands that provide Paonia with their municipal water supply. Currently, these areas have been encroached with young trees and thick mountain shrubs which have resulted in a decrease of palatable forage for deer and elk as well as increasing the risk of catastrophic fire in this area.

To address these concerns, approximately 224 acres are proposed for treatment by slashing, and another 520 acres would be treated with prescribed fire. Much of the proposed activity would occur in an old vegetation improvement project completed in 1982 and be designed to renew and maintain this project to improve wildlife habitat conditions in this area. To provide for a safe and effective prescribed burn, mechanical means may be used to construct fuel breaks to contain the prescribed fire and to protect infrastructure such as fences and water facilities in the project area. Project activities would occur during spring and fall.

We are soliciting your comments on this proposal to help identify any issues or concerns so they may be considered in the environmental analysis and decision making process for this project. Please send your comments to BLM by July 1, 2011. If possible, please be specific in describing your concerns, recommendations, or how the proposal may affect you or values important to you. This scoping notice, including maps, is also available online at http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Information/nepa/ufo.html.










If you have comments regarding this BLM proposal, please send them to: BLM, Uncompahgre Field Office, 2465 South Townsend Ave, Montrose, CO 81401. Attention: Kelly Homstad. You can also contact Kelly at 970-240-5393 (office), 970-240-5368 (fax), or email comments to khomstad@blm.gov.

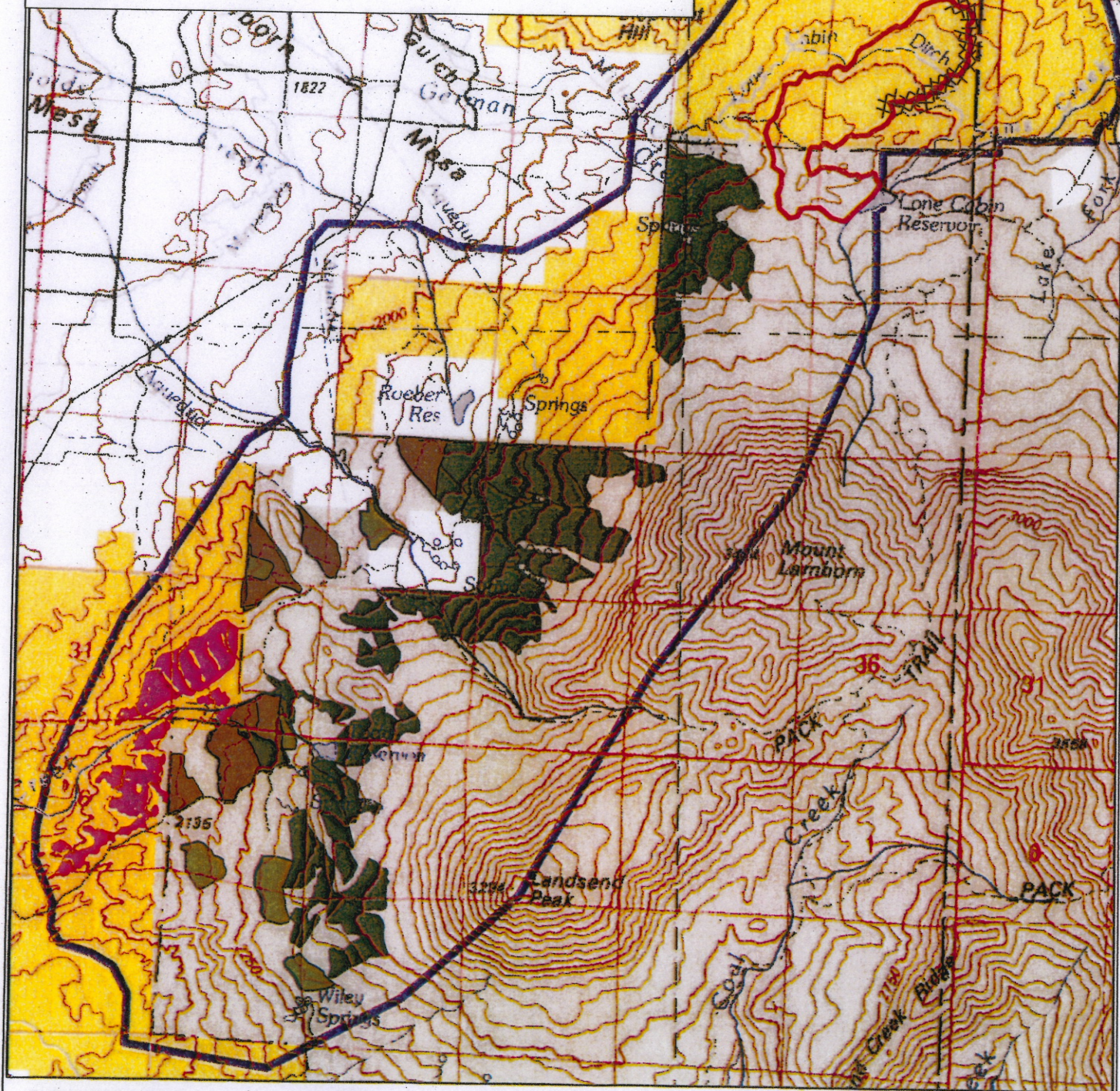
Sincerely,

Barbara L. Sharrow
for Barbara L. Sharrow
Field Manager
Uncompahgre Field Office

Enclosures (Location Map and Proposed Project Area Map)

Lamborn/MacDonald Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|
|  | Proposed Project Area | Land Ownership |
|  | Proposed Lone Cabin Rx |  Bureau of Land Management |
|  | Proposed Mechanical |  Private |
|  | Proposed Slashing |  US Forest Service |
|  | USFS Planned Treatments | |
|  | USFS Treated 2009 | |



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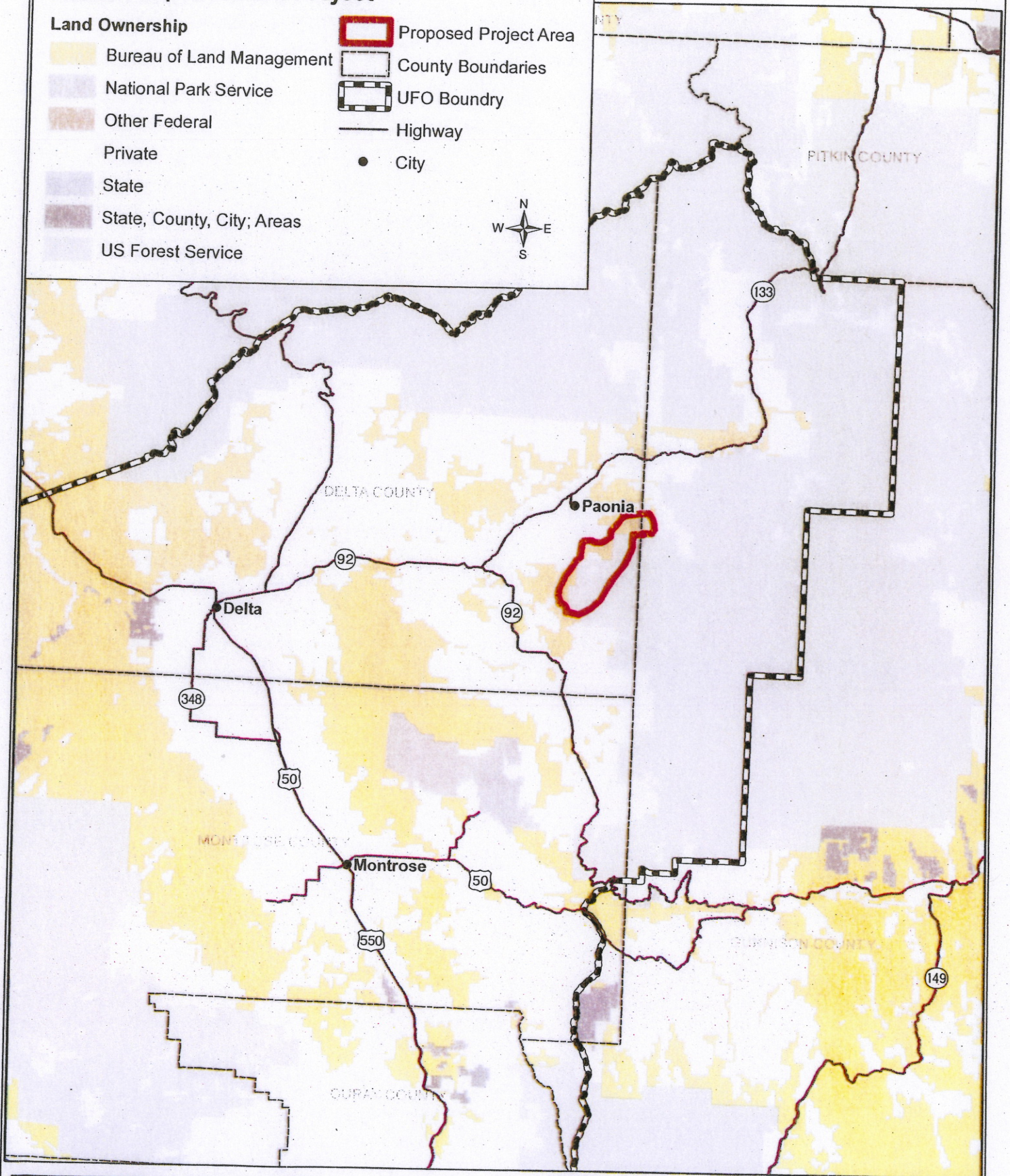
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07/21/10

Lamborn/MacDonald Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project

Land Ownership

- Bureau of Land Management
- National Park Service
- Other Federal
- Private
- State
- State, County, City; Areas
- US Forest Service

- Proposed Project Area
- County Boundaries
- UFO Boundry
- Highway
- City



0 10 20 Miles

kdh
07/21/10